

From: JonathanGoldblatt@CompuServe.Com@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/25/02 5:25pm
Subject: Settlement is bad for me...

The settlement does nothing to stop MicroSoft from destroying RealAudio the same way that it destroyed Netscape. The settlement does nothing to prevent MicroSoft from making it's online service incompatible with other operating systems and browsers, which it has already done for a short period, to maintain it's monopoly in desktop operating systems and browsers, or devising other novel methods to illegally protect it's monopoly. The settlement does nothing to prevent MicroSoft from making it impossible for free software developers to adapt their software to operate in conjunction with software on platforms running MicroSoft operating systems, again to illegally protect it's monopoly.

Obviously what would be best for all would be for MicroSoft to come to its senses and accept the responsibilities of being a law-abiding corporate citizen. What is gained for the public by punishing MicroSoft?

Unfortunately, MicroSoft is unwilling to do this, as it has shown by the ambiguous, legalistic language that it has used to describe it's future conduct and it's continuing defence of past conduct that both a District Court judge and a unanimous Appeals Court have found to be illegal. Unfortunately, by not "punishing" MicroSoft, not only will MicroSoft be encouraged to continue its predatory, illegal, anti-competitive practices, but others will also. Please spare us.

CC: attorney.general@po.state.ct.us@inetgw